



PTA Newsletter Article

Safe Winter Walking

Winter is coming and it's important to stay safe while walking to school. Walking is a healthy way to get to school, not only for the student, but for the community as well. When more students walk or bike safely to school, not only is their health better, but there aren't as many cars around the school, which means cleaner air and fewer pedestrian/vehicle accidents.

To keep students safe we need to make them aware of winter hazards and encourage them to respect those conditions. Students can be safe when walking and biking to school by doing the following:

- Wear bright or reflective clothes so you can be seen in the dark.
- Dress in layers and wear boots with nonskid soles.
- If you have a dark coat, add a brightly colored scarf or hat or reflective gear.
- Slow down. Wear gloves to avoid putting your hands in your pockets as they can protect you if you slip and fall.
- Follow the safest routes on your school's SNAP map.
- Walk with a buddy or group.
- Walk on sidewalks if possible. If sidewalks are covered in snow and ice and you must walk in the street, walk against the flow of traffic and as close to the curb as you can.
- Look left, then right, then left again when crossing a street.
- Cross only at crosswalks.
- Before you step off of the curb into the street, make sure that any approaching vehicles have come to a complete stop where ice and snow are present.

More information about SNAP, including helpful tips, is available at www.udot.utah.gov/SNAPParents. Contact the school for your child's safe route map.